

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

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USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-11 SAB-01 /088 W

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R 071102Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8000

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AG

SUBJECT: ALGERIA AND MAGHRIB-MASHRIQ LINKAGE

REF ALGIERS 0004

1. PRESS CIRCLES IN BEIRUT HAVE BEEN BUSY EXAMINING MAGHRIB-MASHRIQ LINKAGE IN LAST FEW DAYS. IN ARTICLE ENTITLED "ALGERIA-LIBYA: EXPANDING ALLIANCE", JAN 5 ISSUE OF HIGHLY RESPECTED "AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT" PICKS UP ON SEVERAL POINTS IN REFTEL. ACCORDING TO ARTICLE, "CONFLICT OVER WESTERN SAHARA... HAS REACHED POINT WHERE IT IS THREATENING TO CAUSE RUPTURE WITHIN ARAB MAGHREB. AT SAME TIME, IT IS PAVING WAY FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ARAB ALLIANCES, BEYOND SCOPE OF MAGHREB, EXTENDING TO ARAB EAST AND EVEN TO LEVEL OF CONFLICT WITH ISRAEL. ONE IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THIS FRAMEWORK WAS MEETING ON 18 AND 19 DEC BETWEEN

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... BOUMEDIENNE AND ... KADDAFLI... ARAB DIPLOMATIC

SOURCES TOLD 'AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT' THAT ... COLONEL KADDAFI HAS PLACED AT BOUMEDIENNE'S DISPOSAL LIBYAN MIRAGE FIGHTER-BOMBERS AND CERTAIN TYPES OF WEAPONS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT WHICH ALGERIA MIGHT NEED IN EVENT OF CONFRONTATION WITH MOROCCO... INFORMED OBSERVERS SAY THAT LIBYAN-ALGERIAN ALLIANCE IS TO EXTEND BEYOND SCOPE OF MAGHREB, ESPECIALLY SINCE BOUMEDIENNE DECLARED THAT LIBYA AND ALGERIA 'ARE IN AGREEMENT CONCERNING ARAB EAST AND ARAB MAGHREB...' INFORMED DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SAY THAT LIBYAN EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO ESTABLISH FRONT COMPRISING ALGERIA LIBYA, SYRIA, IRAQ AND PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE MOVEMENT.... AFTER BOUMEDIENNE-KADDAFI MEETING, JALLOUD WENT TO BAGHDAD.... INFORMED SOURCES SAID THAT JALLOUD DISCUSSED WITH... SADDAM HUSSEIN POSSIBILITY OF NORMALIZING IRAQI RELATIONS WITH SYRIA TO PAVE WAY FOR CREATION OF ENLARGED FRONT. IN EVENT THIS ALGERIAN-LIBYAN-SYRIAN-PALESTINIAN FRONT IS ESTABLISHED, AND THIS WILL NOT BE EASY DUE TO PRESENT STRAIN IN SYRIAN-IRAQI RELATIONS, MANY OF GIVEN FACTS IN FIELD OF ARAB CONFLICT WITH ISRAEL WILL CHANGE."

2. AUTHOR OF

ABOVE ARTICLE, "AN-NAHAR" FOREIGN EDITOR 'ABD AL-KARIM ABUN-NASR, USED TERMS VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE OF REFTEL IN EXPANDING ON NATURE OF "ALLIANCE" TO EMBOFF. TO HIM, ALLIANCE IS INDEED SAHARA-MIDEAST TRADEOFF, BUT IT IS ONE MOTIVATED PARTLY BY DESIRE TO EMBARRASS THE FRENCH, NOT THE AMERICANS. (PARA 3B REFTEL) THROUGH TRANSFER OF MIRAGES TO ALGERIA. ABUN-NASR AGREED WITH EMBOFF THAT SUCCESS OF ANY PROPOSAL TO CREATE "GRAND REJECTIONIST FRONT" WOULD DEPEND ALMOST ENTIRELY ON ATTITUDE OF ONLY APPROACHABLE CONFRONTATION STATE --SYRIA-- AND THAT ALGERIAN MOVES ARE DETERMINED FAR MORE BY ALGERIAN DOMESTIC AND NORTH AFRICAN REGIONAL CONSIDERATIONS THAN BY STATE OF PLAY IN MASHRIQ.

3. ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR MUHAMMAD YAZID, FOR ONE, PROFESSES TO BE EMBARRASSED BY RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. WASHINGTON POST CORRESPONDENT JON RANDAL, WHO SAW YAZID TODAY TO OBTAIN ALGERIAN VISA FOR COLLEAGUE JIM HOAGLUND, REPORTS THAT SIGNS OF EMERGING ALGERIAN-PALESTINIAN REJECTIONIST ENTENTE ARE ALREADY UNDERMINING YAZID'S DUAL ROLE AS MEDIATOR BETWEEN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VARIOUS PALESTINIAN FACTIONS AND GURU TO YASIR "ARAFAT AND MAINSTREAM OF PLO.
GODLEY

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